

Application No. 10/016,708  
Amendment Dated May 16, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of February 16, 2006

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing the impact of an industrial or infrastructure development activity on sustainability of an enterprise or institution, comprising:

(a) identifying a plurality of quantifiable indicators categories which together are representative of the impact of said activity on sustainability;

(b) assigning a weight to each of said categories;

(c) for each said category, identifying at least one quantifiable indicator which is associated with that category and which affects the impact of said activity on sustainability;

(d) analysing data to assign a value to each of the indicators;

(e) converting the value of each said indicator to an indicator score;

(f) for each said category, compiling the indicator scores for the at least one indicator

associated with that category to generate an aggregate score for that category; and

(d) (g) compiling the indicator aggregate scores for said categories to generate a composite sustainability score representative of the impact of the activity on the sustainability of said enterprise or institution.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising periodic repetition of steps (a), (b), (c) and (d) to (g) to determine how the impact of the activity changes over time.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the value of at least one of said indicators is converted to an indicator score by comparing the value of the indicator quantity obtained in step (b) (d) to a standard value for said indicator.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein, after at least one repetition of steps (a), (b), (c) and (d) to (g), the indicator score for at least one of said indicators is obtained by comparing the value obtained in step (b) (d) or the indicator score obtained in step (e) (e) with previously obtained values of the indicator quantity and or the indicator score, respectively.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the activity is an industrial or infrastructure development activity and each of said indicators falls into a general category said

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categories are selected from the group comprising consisting of materials, energy, emissions, effluents, by-products, toxics, water use, land use and restoration, health and safety, community involvement and community impacts and other indicators of local relevance.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim § 1, wherein the industrial or infrastructure development activity comprises a capital project designed to change or expand the operation of an existing facility.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein at least one of said indicator scores is obtained by comparing the value of one of said indicators prior to implementation of the capital project with the value of that indicator after implementation of the capital project.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim § 1, wherein the sustainability scores for a number of facilities within a division or an organization are aggregated to obtain an aggregate score for the division or the organization.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim § 9, wherein the aggregate scores are monitored over time to monitor compliance with policies and progress towards sustainability.

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11. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the impact being assessed is the environmental impact of the activity.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the categories relating to the environmental impact include one or more of: materials, energy, emissions, effluents, by-products, toxics, water use and land use.

13. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the indicators associated with the materials category include one or more of: process yield/raw material usage; and material costs.

14. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the indicators associated with the energy category include one or more of: energy use/ton product; and cost per energy unit.

15. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the indicators associated with the emissions category include one or more of: SO<sub>2</sub>/ton product; GHG/ton product; and fluoride/ton product.

16. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the indicators associated with the effluents category include one or more of: liquid volume/ton product; metal/ton product; and solid wastes/ton product.

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17. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the indicators associated with the by-products category include one or more of: hazardous wastes; saleable by-products and percent recyclable by-products.

18. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the impact being assessed is the social impact of the activity.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the categories relating to the social impact include one or more of: health and safety of workers; community involvement; and community impacts.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the indicators associated with the health and safety category include one or more of: respiratory, noise, radiation and hazards.

21. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the indicators associated with the community involvement category include one or more of: number of meetings; and number of participants.

22. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the indicators associated with the community impacts category include one or more of: health; esthetics; economics; employment; and quality of life.

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23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of said indicators are associated with one or more of said categories.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of compiling said indicator scores comprises adding said indicator scores.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the indicators are quantifiable by numerical values.

26. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the standard value is a government or industry standard for that value or a previously measured value for said indicator.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the industrial or infrastructure development activity comprises a plurality of capital projects; wherein said method determines the overall impact of the capital projects on sustainability; and wherein said step of identifying said indicators is performed independently for each said capital project.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said plurality of projects comprises a first project for which a first group of indicators is identified and a second project for which a second group of indicators is identified; and wherein at least one member of the first group of indicators is not present in the second group of indicators.

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29. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said capital projects are carried out simultaneously.

30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said enterprise or institution comprises a single industrial facility.

31. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the sustainability score comprises a graphic representation having a plurality of axes emanating from a common origin, and wherein the aggregate score for each category is plotted along one of the axes.